

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 8, 2003. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 9-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Landgren. Claims 1, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Hansch. The Applicant notes that the Examiner has indicated that claims 2-8, 13 and 14 would be allowable if they were rewritten in independent form.

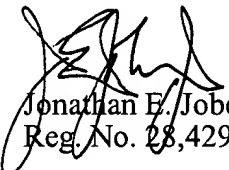
The Applicant has amended claim 1 to include substantially the limitations of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 as amended and the claims depending therefrom are allowable. The Applicant has amended claim 9 to point out more distinctly the structure of the means for rotating the gripping means. The Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of amended claim 9 is neither taught nor suggested by the references. The Applicant has added new independent claim 20, which the Applicant respectfully submits is allowable.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 858-350-6153.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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